

PRO

**PROSELYTE**. *n. f.* [*προσηλύτης*, *Fr.*] A convert; one brought over to a new opinion.  
He that saw hell in's melancholy dream,  
Scar'd from his sins, repented in a fright,  
Had he view'd Scotland, had turn'd *proselyte*. *Cleaveland.*  
Men become professors and combatants for those opinions  
they were never convinced of, nor *proselytes* to. *Locke.*  
Where'er you tread,  
Millions of *proselytes* behind are led,  
Through crowds of new-made converts fill you go. *Gray.*  
What numbers of *proselytes* may we not expect. *Addison.*  
**TO PROSELYTE**. *v. a.* To convert. A bad word.  
Men of this temper cut themselves off from the opportu-  
nities of *proselyting* others, by averting them from their com-  
pany. *Government of the Tongue.*  
**PROSEMINATION**. *n. f.* [*prosemino, prosemminatus, Lat.*] Pro-  
pagation by seed.  
Touching the impossibility of the eternal succession of men,  
animals or vegetables by natural propagation or *prosemination*,  
the reasons thereof shall be delivered. *Hale.*  
**PROSEDIAN**. *n. f.* [from *prosedij*.] One skilled in metre or  
prose.  
Some have been so bad *prosedians*, as from thence to derive  
malum, because that fruit was the first occasion of evil. *Brown.*  
**PROSODY**. *n. f.* [*prosodie, Fr. προσώδιον*.] The part of  
grammar which teaches the sound and quantity of syllables,  
and the measures of verse.  
**PROSOPOTRIA**. *n. f.* [*προσωποποιία; προσώπιος, Fr.*] Per-  
sonification; figure by which things are made persons.  
These reasons are pathetically urged, and admirably raised  
by the *prosopopeia* of nature speaking to her children. *Dryden.*  
**PROSPECT**. *n. f.* [*prospectus, Lat.*]  
1. View of something distant.  
Eden and all the coast in *prospect* lay. *Milton.*  
The Jews being under the economy of immediate revela-  
tion, might be supposed to have had a freer *prospect* into that  
heaven, whence their law descended. *Decay of Piety.*  
It is better to marry than to burn, says St. Paul; a little  
burning felt pushes us more powerfully, than greater pleasures  
in *prospect* allure. *Locke.*  
2. Place which affords an extended view.  
Him God beholding from his *prospect* high,  
Wherein past, present, future he beholds,  
Thus spake, *Adrian's Par. Lof, b. iii.*  
3. Series of objects open to the eye.  
There is a very noble *prospect* from this place: on the one  
side lies a vast extent of seas, that runs abroad further than the  
eye can reach: just opposite stands the green promontory of  
Surrentum, and on the other side the whole circuit of the bay  
of Naples. *Addison.*  
4. Object of view.  
Man to himself  
Is a large *prospect*, rais'd above the level  
Of his low creeping thoughts. *Denham.*  
Present, sad *prospect*! can he ought desire,  
But what affects his melancholy eye;  
The beauties of the ancient fabrick lost  
In chains of craggy hills, or lengths of dreary coast. *Prior.*  
5. View into futurity: opposed to retrospect.  
To be king,  
Stands not within the *prospect* of belief,  
No more than to be Cawdor. *Shakespeare. Macbeth.*  
To him, who hath a *prospect* of the different state of per-  
fect happiness or misery, that attends all men after this life,  
the measures of good and evil are mightily changed. *Locke.*  
If there be no *prospect* beyond the grave, the inference is  
right; let us eat and drink, for to-morrow we shall die. *Locke.*  
Against himself his gratitude maintain'd,  
By favours past, not future *prospects* gain'd. *Smith.*  
6. Regard to something future.  
Is he a prudent man, as to his temporal estate, that lays  
designs only for a day, without any *prospect* to, or provision  
for the remaining part of his life. *Tillemont.*  
**TO PROSPECT**. *v. a.* [*prospectus, Lat.*] To look forward. *Dict.*  
**PROSPECTIVE**. *adj.* [from *prospect*.]  
1. Viewing at a distance.  
The French king and king of Sweden are circumpect, in-  
dustrious and *prospective* too in this affair. *Child.*  
**TO PROSPER**. *v. a.* [*prosperis, Lat.*] To make happy; to  
favour.  
Kind gods, forgive  
Me that, and *prosper* him. *Shakespeare. King Lear.*  
All things concur to *prosper* our design;  
All things to *prosper* any love but mine. *Dryden.*  
**TO PROSPER**. *v. n.* [*prosperis, Fr.*]  
1. To be prosperous; to be successful.  
My word shall not return void, but accomplish that which  
I please, and it shall *prosper* in the thing whereto I sent it. *If.*  
This man encreased by little and little, and things *prosp-*  
*ered* with him more and more. *2 Mac. viii. 3.*  
Surer to *prosper*, than prosperity  
Could have assur'd us. *Milton.*

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2. To thrive; to come forward.  
All things do *prosper* best, when they are advanced to the  
better; a nursery of stocks ought to be in a more barren  
ground, than that whereunto you remove them. *Bacon.*  
The plants, which he had set, did thrive and *prosper*. *Gray.*  
She visits how they *prosper*'d, bud, and bloom. *Milton.*  
**PROSPERITY**. *n. f.* [*prosperitas, Lat. prosperitas, Fr.*] Success;  
attainment of wishes; good fortune.  
*Prosperity*, in regard of our corrupt inclination to abuse the  
blessings of Almighty God, doth prove a thing dangerous to  
the souls of men. *Hooker, b. v. l. 48.*  
God's justice reaps that glory in our calamities, which we  
robbed him of in our *prosperity*. *King Charles.*  
**PROSPEROUS**. *adj.* [*prosperus, Lat.*] Successful; fortunate.  
Your good advice, which still hath been both grave  
And *prosperous*. *Shakespeare. Macbeth.*  
Either state to bear *prosperous* or adverse.  
May he find  
A happy passage, and a *prosperous* wind. *Denham.*  
**PROSPEROUSLY**. *adv.* [from *prosperus*.] Successfully; for-  
tunately.  
*Prosperously* I have attempted, and  
With bloody passage led your wars, even to  
The gates of Rome. *Shakespeare. Coriolanus.*  
In 1596, was the second invasion upon the main territories  
of Spain, *prosperously* achieved by Robert earl of Essex, in  
conform with the earl of Nottingham. *Bacon.*  
Those, who are *prosperously* unjust, are intitled to panegy-  
ric, but afflicted virtue is stabbed with reproaches. *Dryden.*  
**PROSPEROUSNESS**. *n. f.* [from *prosperus*.] Prosperity.  
**PROSPICIENCE**. *n. f.* [from *prospicio, Lat.*] The act of look-  
ing forward.  
**PROSTERNATION**. *n. f.* [from *prosterno, Lat.*] Dejection;  
depression; state of being cast down; act of casting down.  
A word not to be adopted.  
Pain interrupts the cure of ulcers, whence are stirred up a  
fever, watching, and *prosternation* of spirits. *Wifeman.*  
**PROSTHESIS**. *n. f.* [*προσθησις*.] In surgery, that which fills up  
what is wanting, as when fistulous ulcers are filled up with  
flesh. *Dict.*  
**TO PROSTITUTE**. *v. a.* [*prostitutus, Lat. prostitutus, Fr.*]  
1. To sell to wickedness; to expose to crimes for a reward. It  
is commonly used of women sold to whoredom by others of  
themselves.  
Do not *prostitute* thy daughter, to cause her to be a whore.  
*Lev. xix. 29.*  
Marrying or *prostituting*,  
Rape or adultery. *Milton's Par. Lof, b. xi.*  
Who shall prevail with them to do that themselves which  
they beg of God, to spare his people and his heritage, to  
*prostitute* them no more to their own sinister designs. *D. of Pic.*  
Affections, consecrated to children, husbands, and parents,  
are vilely *prostituted* and thrown away upon a hand at loo. *Add.*  
2. To expose upon vile terms.  
It were unfit, that so excellent and glorious a reward, as  
the gospel promises, should stoop down like fruit upon a full  
laden bough, to be plucked by every idle and wanton hand,  
that heaven should be *prostituted* to foolish men. *Tillemont.*  
**PROSTITUTE**. *adj.* [*prostitutus, Lat.*] Vicious for hire; sold  
to infamy or wickedness; sold to whoredom.  
Their common loves, a lewd abandon'd pack,  
By sloth corrupted, by disorder fed,  
Made bold by want, and *prostitute* for bread. *Prior.*  
**PROSTITUTE**. *n. f.* [from the verb.]  
1. A hireling; a mercenary; one who is set to sale.  
At open fulsome bawdry they rejoice,  
Base *prostitute*! thus dost thou gain thy bread. *Dryden.*  
No hireling she, no *prostitute* to praise. *Pope.*  
2. [*Prostituta, Lat.*] A publick strumpet.  
From every point they come, *Dryden.*  
Then dread no dearth of *prostitutes* at Rome.  
**PROSTITUTION**. *n. f.* [*prostitutio, Fr. from prostitute.*]  
1. The act of setting to sale; the state of being set to sale.  
2. The life of a publick strumpet.  
An infamous woman, having passed her youth in a most  
shameless state of *prostitution*, now gains her livelihood by se-  
ducing others. *Addison's Spectator.*  
**PROSTITUTE**. *adj.* [*prostitutus, Lat.*] The accent was for-  
merly on the first syllable.  
1. Lying at length.  
Once I saw with dread oppress'd  
Her whom I dread; so that with *prostitute* lying,  
Her length the earth in love's chief cloathing dressed. *Stan.*  
He heard the western lords would undermine  
His city's wall, and lay his town's *prostitute*. *Fairfax.*  
Before fair Britomart she fell *prostitute*. *Spenser.*  
Groveling and *prostitute* on yon lake of fire. *Milton.*  
2. Lying at mercy.  
Look gracious on thy *prostitute* thrall. *Shakespeare.*  
3. Thrown down in humblest adoration.  
The warming found was no sooner heard, but the churches  
were filled, the pavements covered with bodies *prostrating*, and  
washed with tears of devout joy. *Do ker.*  
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Let us to the place  
Repairing where he judg'd us, *prostrate* fall  
Before him reverent; and there confess  
Humbly our faults, and pardon beg. *Milton.*  
While *prostrate* here in humble grief I lie,  
Kind virtuous drops just gath'ring in my eye. *Pope.*  
**TO PROSTRATE**. *v. a.* [*prostratus, Lat.*]  
1. To lay flat; to throw down.  
In the streets many they flew, and fired divers places, *pro-*  
*strating* two parishes almost entirely. *Hayward.*  
A storm that all things doth *prostrate*,  
Finding a tree alone all comfortless,  
Beats on it strongly, it to ruinate. *Spenser.*  
Stake and bind up your weakest plants against the winds,  
before they come too fiercely, and in a moment *prostrate* a  
whole year's labour. *Evelyn's Kalender.*  
The drops falling thicker, faster, and with greater force,  
beating down the fruit from the trees, *prostrating* and laying  
corn growing in the fields. *Woodward's Nat. Hist.*  
2. [*Se prosternis, Fr.*] To throw down in adoration.  
Some have *prostrated* themselves an hundred times in the  
day, and as often in the night. *Duppa.*  
**PROSTRATION**. *n. f.* [*prostration, Fr. from prostrate.*]  
1. The act of falling down in adoration.  
Nor is only a resolved *prostration* unto antiquity, a power-  
ful enemy unto knowledge, but any confident adherence unto  
authority. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*  
The worship of the Gods had been kept up in temples,  
with altars, images, sacrifices, hymns and *prostrations*. *Stilling.*  
The truths, they had subscribed to in speculation, they  
revered by a brutish senseless devotion, managed with a  
greater *prostration* of reason than of body. *South's Sermons.*  
2. Dejection; depression.  
A sudden *prostration* of strength or weakness attends this  
colic. *Arbutnot.*  
**PROSTYLE**. *n. f.* [*prostyle, Fr. προστυλ*.] A building that has  
only pillars in the front. *Dict.*  
**PROSYLOGISM**. *n. f.* [*pro and syllogism*.]  
A *prosyllogism* is when two or more syllogisms are so con-  
nected together, that the conclusion of the former is the  
major or the minor of the following. *Watts.*  
**PROTASIS**. *n. f.* [*protasis, Fr. προτασις*.]  
1. A maxim or proposition.  
2. In the ancient drama, the first part of a comedy or tragedy  
that explains the argument of the piece. *Dict.*  
**PROTATICK**. *n. f.* [*protatike, Fr. προτατικ*.]  
There are *protatiks* persons in the ancients, whom they use  
in their plays to hear or give the relation. *Dryden.*  
**TO PROTECT**. *v. a.* [*protectus, Lat. proteger, Fr.*] To  
defend; to cover from evil; to shield.  
The king  
Had virtuous uncles to *protect* his grace. *Shakespeare.*  
Leave not the faithful side,  
That gave thee being, still shades thee and *protects*. *Mil.*  
Full in the midst of his own strength he stands,  
Stretching his bravery arms and leafy hands,  
His shade *protects* the plains. *Dryden's Virgil.*  
**PROTECTION**. *n. f.* [*protection, Fr. from protect.*]  
1. Defence; shelter from evil.  
Drive tow'rd Dover, friend, where thou shalt meet  
Both welcome and *protection*. *Shakespeare. King Lear.*  
If the weak might find *protection* from the mighty, they  
could not with justice lament their condition. *Swift.*  
2. A passport; exemption from being molested: as, *we had a*  
*protection* during the rebellion.  
**PROTECTIVE**. *adj.* [from *protect*.] Defensive; sheltering.  
*Protective* of his young. *Thomson.*  
**PROTECTOR**. *n. f.* [*protector, Fr. from protect.*]  
1. Defender; shelterer; supporter; one who shields from evil  
or oppression; guardian.  
Hither th' oppress'd shall henceforth resort,  
Justice to crave, and succour at your court;  
And then your highness, not for our's alone,  
But for the world's *protector* shall be known. *Waller.*  
The king of Spain, who is *protector* of the commonwealth,  
received information from the great duke. *Addison.*  
2. An officer who had heretofore the care of the kingdom in  
the king's minority.  
Is it concluded, he shall be *protector*? *Shakespeare.*  
**PROTECTOR**. *n. f.* [*protector, Fr. from protector.*] A wo-  
man that protects.  
All things should be guided by her direction, as the fove-  
reign patroness and *protectors* of the enterprise. *Bacon.*  
Behold those arts with a propitious eye,  
That suppliant to their great *protectors* fly. *Addison.*  
**TO PROTEND**. *v. a.* [*proterendo, Lat.*] To hold out; to stretch  
forth.  
All stood with their *proterend* spears prepar'd. *Dryden.*  
With his *proterend* lance he makes defence. *Dryden.*  
**PROTEVITY**. *n. f.* [*protevit, Latin*.] Peevishness; petu-  
lance.

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**TO PROTEST**. *v. n.* [*protestor, Lat. protestor, Fr.*] To give  
a solemn declaration of opinion or resolution.  
Here's the twin brother of thy letter; but let thine inherit  
first, for, I *protest*, mine never shall. *Shakespeare.*  
The peaking cornuto comes in the instant, after we had  
*protested* and spoke the prologue of our comedy. *Shakespeare.*  
I have long lov'd her; and I *protest* to you, bestow'd much  
on her; followed her with a doating obsequence. *Shakespeare.*  
He *protests* against your votes, and swears  
He'll not be try'd by any but his peers. *Denham.*  
The conscience has power to disapprove and to *protest*  
against the exorbitances of the passions. *South.*  
**TO PROTEST**. *v. a.*  
1. To prove; to show; to give evidence of. Not used.  
Many unfought youths, that even now  
Pr *test* their first of manhood. *Shakespeare. Macbeth.*  
2. To call as a witness.  
Fiercely they oppos'd  
My journey strange, with clamorous uproar,  
Protecting fate supreme. *Milton.*  
**PROTEST**. *n. f.* [from the verb.] A solemn declaration of  
opinion against something.  
**PROTESTANT**. *adj.* [from *protest*.] Belonging to protestants.  
Since the spreading of the *protestant* religion, several nations  
are recovered out of their ignorance. *Addison.*  
**PROTESTANT**. *n. f.* [*protestant, Fr. from protest.*] One of  
those who adhere to them, who, at the beginning of the re-  
formation, *protested* against the errors of the church of Rome.  
This is the first example of any *protestant* subjects, that have  
taken up arms against their king a *protestant*. *K. Charles.*  
**PROTESTATION**. *n. f.* [*protestation, Fr. from protest.*] A so-  
lemn declaration of resolution, fact or opinion.  
He maketh *protestati*o to them of Corinth, that the gospel  
did not by other means prevail with them, than with others  
the same gospel taught by the rest of the apostles. *Mosker.*  
But to your *protestation*; let me hear  
What you profess. *Shakespeare. Winter's Tale.*  
If the lords of the council issued out any order against  
them, some nobleman published a *protestation* against it. *Clarend.*  
I smiled at the solemn *protestation* of the poet in the first  
page, that he believes neither in the fates or destinies. *Addison.*  
**PROTESTER**. *n. f.* [from *protest*.] One who protests; one who  
utters a solemn declaration.  
Did I use  
To stale with ordinary oaths my love  
To every new *protector*? *Shakespeare. Julius Caesar.*  
What if he were one of the latest *protectors* against popery?  
and but one among many, that set about the same work? *Att.*  
**PROTHONOTARY**. *n. f.* [*protonaire, Fr. protonotarius,*  
*Lat.*] The head register.  
Saligniacus, the pope's *prothonotary*, denies the Nubians  
professing of obedience to the bishop of Rome. *B. erwood.*  
**PROTHONOTARISHIP**. *n. f.* [from *prothonotary*.] The office or  
dignity of the principal register.  
He had the *prothonotariship* of the chancery. *Carew.*  
**PROTOCOL**. *n. f.* [*protokoll, Dutch; protocole, Fr. πρωτοκολλον,*  
from *πρωτος* and *κολλω*.] The original copy of any writing.  
An original is filed the *protocol*, or scriptura matrix; and  
if the *protocol*, which is the root and foundation of the instru-  
ment, does not appear, the instrument is not valid. *Ayliffe.*  
**PROTOMARTYR**. *n. f.* [*protomartyr, and μαρτυρ*.] The first martyr.  
A term applied to St. Stephen.  
**PROTOPLAST**. *n. f.* [*protoplast, and πλαστος*.] Original; thing  
first formed as a copy to be followed afterwards.  
The consumption was the primitive disease, which put a  
period to our *protoplasts*, Adam and Eve. *Harvey.*  
**PROTOTYPE**. *n. f.* [*prototype, Fr. πρωτότυπον*.] The original  
of a copy; exemplar; archetype.  
Man is the *prototype* of all exact symmetry. *Watson.*  
The image and *prototype* were two distinct things; and  
therefore what belonged to the exemplar could not be attri-  
buted to the image. *Stillingfleet.*  
**TO PROTRACT**. *v. a.* [*protractus, Lat.*] To draw out;  
to delay; to lengthen; to spin to length.  
Where can they get victuals to support such a multitude,  
if we do but *protract* the war. *Knolles.*  
He shrives this woman to her smock;  
Else ne'er could he so long *protract* his speech. *Shakespeare.*  
**PROTRACT**. *n. f.* [from the verb.] Tedious continuance.  
Since I did leave the presence of my love,  
Many long weary days I have out-worn,  
And many nights, that slowly seem'd to move  
Their sad *protract* from evening until morn. *Spenser.*  
**PROTRACTER**. *n. f.* [from *protract*.]  
1. One who draws out any thing to tedious length.  
2. A mathematical instrument for taking and measuring angles.  
**PROTRACTOR**. *n. f.* [from *protract*.] The act of drawing to  
length.  
Those delays  
And long *protracti*o, which he must endure,  
Betrays th' opportunity. *Daniel.*  
As to the fabulous *protracti*ons of the age of the world by  
the Egyptians, they are uncertain idle traditions. *Hale.*  
**PROTRACTIVE**.